

Message Text

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20

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01

OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 /096 W

----- 115876

R 220737Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2822

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USINT BAGHDAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 1750

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG KU

SUBJECT: CONFLICTING REPORTS CONCERNING OFF SHORE DRILLING
ACTIVITY

1. RECENTLY WE HAVE HEARD CONFLICTING REPORTS REGARDING
POSSIBLE DRILLING ACTIVITY OFF SHORE FROM KUWAIT. ACCORDING
TO AN EMPLOYEE OF KUWAIT NATIONAL PETROLEUM COMPANY, SHELL,
WHO HOLDS THE OFF SHORE CONCESSION, IS ABOUT TO EMBARK ON
A MAJOR DRILLING PROGRAM. HOWEVER SENIOR MINISTRY OF OIL
OFFICIAL DENIED CATEGORICALLY THAT ANYTHING BEING DONE OFF
SHORE. HE ALSO CLAIMED THAT NO AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED
WITH SAUDI ARABIA REGARDING CERTAIN BORDER CLAIMS WHICH HAVE
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LARGELY PREVENTED SHELL FROM EXPLOITING ITS CONCESSION.

MINISTRY OFFICIAL ADDED THAT IF ANY ACTIVITY WAS UNDERTAKEN OFF SHORE IT WOULD NOT NECESSARILY BE DONE BY SHELL, AND GOK ITSELF WOULD DEFINE WHAT WAS TO BE DONE THERE.

2. COMMENT: WE UNDERSTAND THAT GOK IS IN THE MIDDLE OF AN EXERCISE TO ASSESS ITS OFF SHORE GAS RESERVES. IF THEY WISH TO EXPLOIT THESE RESERVES BY LATTER PART OF THIS DECADE WHEN EXISTING ON-SHORE GAS MAY BE INSUFFICIENT TO MEET LOCAL REQUIREMENTS, WORK WOULD HAVE TO BEGIN SOON. DESPITE GOK OFFICIAL'S STRONG DENIAL, WE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF SOME OFF SHORE ACTIVITY BEGINS IN RELATIVELY NEAR FUTURE.
STOLTZFUS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OFFSHORE DRILLING, PETROLEUM RESERVES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KUWAIT01750
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750140-0657
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750429/aaaabazh.tel
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <09 SEP 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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